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THE THORNEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1962.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year ended 31st March, 1963.

The health of the community has been satisfactory and there has been no epidemics of infectious diseases during the year.

The water supply for the area has given rise to some concern, owing to the generally increased demand on the water supply of Peterborough. As the Soke of Peterborough is increasing its reservoir accommodation this should not present a problem in the future. This is of interest as there is an increase in building proposed in Thorney, some of which has already been completed. As adequate arrangements for this new building were taken into consideration, when the alteration in the sewerage system was carried out, there should be no problems in the future.

I add a special report of the Public Health Officer.

Your obedient Servant,

J.R.F. Popplewell,

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health. J.R.F. Popplewell, M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., D.R.C.O.G.

Surveyor & Public Health Officer. E.T. Little, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area	21,796 acres.
Population	2,170.

VITAL STATISTICS.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
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Legitimate.	20.	18.
Illegitimate.	1.	Nil.
	21.	18.
	—	—

<u>Still Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
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Legitimate.	2.	Nil.
Illegitimate.	Nil.	Nil.
	2.	Nil.
	—	—

<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Deaths of Infants under 1 year.	1.	Nil.
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks.	1.	Nil.
Deaths of Infants under 1 week.	1.	Nil.
Deaths from Cancer.	1.	2.
Deaths from Tuberculosis.	Nil.	1.
Total Deaths.	<u>12.</u>	<u>8.</u>

Infectious Diseases.

2 cases of Measles.
 1 case of Sonne Dysentry.
 1 case of Renal T.B.

Immunisation against Diphtheria.

Under 1 year.....	6.
1 - 4 years	15.
5 -14 years.....	<u>4.</u>
	25.
Boosters	<u>27.</u>

Immunisation against Poliomyelitis.

This is carried out by the County Council and the local general practitioners.

Laboratory Facilities.

Ambulance Services.

Nursing in the Home.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Clinics.

The facilities of all the above services are the same as last year.

Housing.

Houses completed during the year :-

Private	18.
Council	Nil.

Council Offices,
THORNEY,
Peterborough.

June, 1963.

TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Sir,

I have the honour to present my 8th Annual Report in respect of the year ended 31st March, 1963, as follows :-

NUISANCES.

14 Nuisances were investigated as follows :-

Premises (disrepair) ...	5.
Sanitary accommodation ...	2.
Drainage	6.
Animals	1.

Number of Nuisances abated as a result of informal action..... 13.

Number of Nuisances abated as a result of statutory action..... Nil.

FACTORIES & WORKSHOPS (see also Appendix 1)

Number of factories with mechanical power	6.
Number of factories without mechanical power	1.
Number of inspections.....	9.

REFUSE COLLECTION.

Collection of household refuse is carried out under private contract and provides a weekly collection in the built-up area. The service has operated satisfactorily during the year, but some complaints have been received re the number of collections from the out-lying areas, the service being one collection per month at the moment.

PETROLEUM ACTS, 1928, &c.

1 new licence was issued during the year.

41 current annual licences are now in force in respect of the bulk storage of petroleum mixtures at 41 premises, an increase of 1 over last year.

18 inspections were carried out during the year.

MORTUARY.

The Mortuary was not used during the year.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

Applications were received for Standard Improvement Grants in respect of 22 properties and grants were awarded in each case.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

As the required works of improvement have still not been completed in respect of the one private slaughterhouse in the district, the premises have remained unlicenced during the year. No slaughtering has therefore been carried out on the premises and no meat inspection undertaken.

CARAVANS.

Under the terms of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, inspections were made of all existing sites. Five sites for single caravans are now licenced under the Act, prior planning approval having been received. There are no multiple sites in the area of this Authority.

WATER SUPPLY.

Bulk water consumption for the district was 29,703,000 gallons or 81,378 gallons per day equivalent to 37 gallons per head per day in respect of the population served.

On chemical analysis, a sample of water taken in November, 1962, was shown to contain per million parts :

Total solids dried at 180 deg. C.	460.00
Suspended matter.	absent
Chlorides as Chlorine	28.40.
Oxidised Nitrogen as Nitrate	0.62
Oxidised Nitrogen as Nitrite	0.001
Free and saline ammonia	0.088
Albuminoid ammonia	0.032
Temporary hardness	240.00
Permanent hardness	98.00.
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 80 deg.F. from N/80 KMnO ₄	0.12
pH value	7.20
Appearance	Clear & bright
Odour	Normal
Taste and colour	Normal
Heavy metals	Absent
Free chlorine	Absent
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 21 degrees C in 72 hrs.	3.
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37 degrees C in 24 hrs.	2.
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37 degrees C in 48 hrs.	2.
Faecal coli count per 100 mls. at 44 degrees C in 48 hrs.	0.
Bacillus Coli (presumptive) absent in	100 mls.

Observations on the Analysis.

This sample of water falls into Class 1 (excellent) of the Ministry of Health's classification of piped water supplies, and is also of suitable chemical quality for human consumption, domestic use and dairy purposes.

Three samples of water were submitted for bacteriological examination with results as follows :

WATER SUPPLY (continued)

Observations on the Analysis.

Highly satisfactory	2.
Satisfactory	1.
Unsatisfactory	Nil.
Length of mains in miles	48.
No. of metered supplies - $\frac{1}{2}$ "	159.
No. of metered supplies - $\frac{5}{4}$ "	21.
No. of new supplies provided :	
Domestic	41.
Non-domestic	3.
Burst mains repaired	31.
Burst services repaired or renewed	16.
Hydrants and valves repaired	10.
Consumer meters repaired	11.
No. of informal notices served re waste of water or defective fittings.	7.

DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE.

A scheme is currently being prepared for the improvement and modernisation of the existing sewage works in Thorney which will become over-loaded within the next year or so as the amount of private development increases.

DISINFESTATION.

No call was made on this service during the year.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT.

All food premises have been inspected during the year.

BUILDING BYELAWS.

56 sets of plans were deposited in respect of 147 new buildings and/or works. 276 visits and inspections were made.

SUMMARY OF VISITS & INSPECTIONS MADE.

Nuisances	...	...	17.
Water Supply	...	...	207.
Factories & Workshops	...	9.	
Food & Meat Inspection	...	-	
Foodshops	...	12.	
Canteens	...	3.	
Drainage & Sewerage	...	35.	
Drainage (new work)	...	49.	
Caravans	...	8.	
Refuse Collection	...	3.	
Sewage Works	...	23.	
Sewage Pumping Stations	..	41.	
Slaughterhouses	..	2.	
Street Numbering	..	36.	
Road Safety	..	2.	
Rodent Control		41.	
Improvement Grants	..	51.	
Committees, &c	..	26.	
New Buildings	..	127.	
Planning	..	29.	
Council Houses	..	156.	
Insect Pest Control	..	7.	
Miscellaneous	..	23.	
Petroleum Acts	..	18.	

NUMBER OF INTERVIEWS.

Office	...	...	378.
At private residence	..	..	91.

COUNCIL HOUSING.

There are 104 Council properties at the moment including bungalows. No new properties were built during the year, but it is anticipated that the housing programme will continue next year, with the emphasis on bungalow accommodation for aged persons

242 repairs were executed in 216 premises by direct labour during the year under review.

GENERAL.

Development of the Thorney Park Estate has proceeded steadily during the year and 36 of these private houses are now occupied. Plans are approved for 115 dwellings on this estate and a further 50 on land at the South.

The winter of 1962 proved to be the worst in living memory, and maintenance of the water supply presented a great problem due to the weather conditions. My thanks are due to the maintenance staff for their efforts during this difficult time.

Improvements to private properties with the aid of Improvement Grants is continuing satisfactorily, and a scheme has been prepared for the similar improvement of all the pre-war Council Houses.

Comparison of the ensuing report with that for previous years will show that more inspections have been made and generally more work executed than in any previous comparable period, whilst the number of staff has remained unchanged.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, may I express my thanks to the Council and to the other Officers and Staff for their help during the year.

E.T.LITTLE,

SURVEYOR & PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER.

A P P E N D I X I.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 AND 1938.

<u>PREMISES.</u>	<u>No. on Register.</u>	<u>No. of Inspections.</u>	<u>Written Notices.</u>	<u>Occupiers Prosecuted.</u>
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	1.	3.	-	-
Factories in which Section 7 is enforced.	6.	6.	-	-
Other Premises.	-	-	-	-
	7.	9.	-	-

NO. OF CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

<u>Particulars.</u>	<u>Found.</u>	<u>Remedied.</u>	<u>Referred to H.M. Inspector.</u>	<u>By H.M. Inspector.</u>	<u>Prosecutions.</u>
Want of Cleanliness.	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Accommodation unsuitable or defective.	-	-	-	-	-

